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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. HAYWORTH).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 18, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable NAN A. S. HAYWORTH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 6223. An act to amend section 1059(e) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 to clarify that a period of employment abroad by the Chief of Mission or United States Armed Forces as a translator, interpreter, or in a security-related position in an executive or managerial capacity is to be counted as a period of residence and physical presence in the United States for purposes of qualifying for naturalization, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2076. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the statutory authority for the longstanding practice of the Department of Justice of providing investigatory assistance on request of State and local authorities with respect to certain serious violent crimes and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1792. An act to clarify the authority of the United States Marshal Service to assist other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in the investigation of cases involving sex offenders and missing children.

S. 1793. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the statutory authority for the longstanding practice of the Department of Justice of providing investigatory assistance on request of State and local authorities with respect to certain serious violent crimes, and for other purposes.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

THE CONNECTICUT SCHOOL CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, there is nothing more Americana than the image of happy children at school during the Christmas season. Last week, that Norman Rockwell picture was stolen by the murders of our greatest natural resource, our children.

Here are photos of 23 of the 26 victims that were murdered that day. We should know their photographs. We should know their names. They were: Chase Kowalski, 7 years of age; James Mattioli, 6; Jack Pinto, 6; Caroline Previdi, 6; Avielle Richman, 6; Benjamin Wheeler, 6 years of age; Allison Wyatt, age 6; Catherine Hubbard, 6 years of age; Daniel Barden, 7 years

old; Grace McDonnell, 7; Emilie Parker, 6 years of age; Jesse Lewis, age 6; Ana Marquez-Greene, 6; Noah Pozner, 6; Jessica Rekos, 6; Josephine Gray, age 7; Madeleine Hsu, age 6; Charlotte Bacon, age 6; Olivia Engel, age 6; Dylan Hockley, age 6. Those were the children.

Here are the names of the teachers: Dawn Lafferty Hochsprung, age 47; Victoria Soto, age 27; Anne Marie Murphy, age 52; Lauren Rousseau, 30; Mary Sherlach, 56; Rachel D'Avino, age 29.

Madam Speaker, these were real people. Real victims, real children, and real teachers of Newtown, Connecticut.

The people of Connecticut have started burying these victims of this assault on America. And all Americans can relate to some extent to this crime that has occurred at this elementary school.

Madam Speaker, I have four kids and 10 grandkids. Three of my daughters are teachers by profession. My wife is a first grade elementary schoolteacher. No parent ever wants to bury their child. We just don't want to do that. We never want our children to die in their youth, like these children did.

So, Madam Speaker, we mourn with the families of Connecticut. We must honor the victims in our prayers and in our words and ask the good Lord to bless them, their families, the people of Connecticut, and, yes, our country as well.

And that's just the way it is.

GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the jarring violence of last week seared into our consciousness. It started in Portland, Oregon, with a mall shooting that might have been worse, and ended in Newton, Connecticut, where it's impossible to imagine that it could have

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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